

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 A-01 OPR-01 SY-04 OCE-00 CCO-00

SCCT-01 IO-10 /080 W

----- 015803

R 231330Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3139

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIE

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

CINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 1165

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, MZ

SUBJECT: LOURENCO MARQUES - EXPLOSIONS AND ARRESTS

1. MINISTRY OF INFORMATION ISSUED COMMUNIQUE DECEMBER 21 ANNOUNCING
ARREST OF 70 INDIVIDUALS SUSPECTED OF OPPOSING DECOLONIZATION
PROCESS BY SPREADING RUMORS, DISTRIBUTING PAMPHLETS CALLING FOR
DISORDER, EXPLODING THREE GRENADES, OR OF ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
IN DISTURBANCES OF SEPTEMBER 7 AND OCTOBER 21. COMMUNIQUE
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STATES CASE OF EACH INDIVIDUAL WILL BE INVESTIGATED AND THOSE

AGAINST WHOM THERE IS NO CRIMINAL EVIDENCE WILL BE RELEASED.

2. AROUND NOON, DECEMBER 21, THERE WAS BIG EXPLOSION AT PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICES. ACCORDING TO NEWS MEDIA, EXPLOSION WAS CAUSED BY ACCIDENTAL DETONATION OF BAZOOKA BY FRELIMO GUARD. ABOUT DOZEN FRELIMO SOLDIERS HAD TO BE HOSPITALIZED.

3. COMMENT: A) RE PARA 1, ARRESTS REFLECT DETERMINATION OF GOVERNMENT TO PREVENT REPETITION OF INCIDENTS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF SEPTEMBER 7 AND OCTOBER 21. DURING PAST FEW WEEKS, NUMEROUS INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED FOR SUSPECTED INVOLVEMENT IN MOZAMBIQUE FREE MOVEMENT (MFM) ACTIVITIES; SOME HAVE BEEN RELEASED FOR LACK OF SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE; SEVERAL PROMINENT WHITES HAVE BEEN DEPORTED. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS INDICATE BLACK MOZAMBICANS DETAINED IN MAIN LOURENCO MARQUES JAIL (MACHAVA) INCLUDE URIA SIMANGO (PCN), JOANA SIMIAO (PCN), PEDRO MONDLANE (MUNIREMO), AND CALISTO MAKULUBE (CNAME). HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS PROMISED FULL LIST OF THOSE IN JAIL WILL BE RELEASED IN DUE COURSE. THOSE ARRESTED IN RECENT ROUND-UP APPEAR TO BE "SMALL FRY" WHITES AND INCLUDE MY LANDLORD, WHO REPORTEDLY CONTRIBUTED SOME MONEY TO MFM. B) RE PARA 2, THIS IS AT LEAST THIRD FRELIMO-CAUSED ACCIDENT IN LOURENCO MARQUES SINCE SEPTEMBER RESULTING IN DEATH OR INJURY OF OTHER FRELIMO SOLDIERS. INCIDENTS REFLECT POORLY ON QUALITY OF MILITARY TRAINING OF FRELIMO SOLDIERS AND HAVE FED DOUBTS REGARDS THEIR ABILITY TO MAINTAIN SECURITY AFTER PORTUGUESE TROOPS LEAVE. C) DESPITE INCIDENTS, LOURENCO MARQUES IS CALM.

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